

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: DIA Request for POW/MIA National Estimate (U)

1. (U) The challenges of POW/MIA issues continue to be a major concern of policymakers and the intelligence community. Significant resources are directed toward this subject by the intelligence community, and we believe the time is especially relevant now to produce a national estimate on this issue of high national interest.

2. (C/NF) Such a definitive document produced by the intelligence community would estimate what the community sees taking place over the next 5 years and the continuing implications for the United States.

a. (C/NF) It would serve as a baseline from 1986 and enhance the community's position as the POW/MIA issue evolves over the next few years.

b. (C/NF) It would address the Vietnamese approach (and that of others in the area) to handling the POW/MIA issue particularly after Operation Homecoming, fully examining the question of the fate of Americans unaccounted for in Southeast Asia and laying out the track record of the governments in the region and their use of POW/MIA issues to obtain identifiable national objectives.

3. (U) DIA is prepared to offer you a principal drafter and an initial TOR/Concept Paper.

4. (U) DIA strongly recommends that a POW/MIA estimate be undertaken as soon as possible and be included in the FY 1987 NIC production plan.

LEONARD H. PERROOTS
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director

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